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WS

DIARY NOTES

DD/S

13 July 1966

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Planning for Saigon: The planning briefing for Saigon was presented today to [REDACTED] John Clarke, and various other representatives of those units concerned with the Revolutionary Development Cadre Program in Vietnam. The planning proposals for a modified PERT system were readily accepted by

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[REDACTED] with the basic principle well established that a planning base document with all pertinent information should be available to all components engaged in supporting the Saigon programs. [REDACTED] wanted to establish a fully-staffed center so that it can begin immediately. Space for this purpose is to be secured. A senior Support Officer working for the Chief of FE Division should head the center with [REDACTED] of FE supporting it. Representatives of Support Offices would participate in this planning operation. [REDACTED] of Logistics will be a principal in converting the data base into the PERT system format. The principal effort will be to accumulate the available headquarters information into this center on short notice and translate this into a PERT system planning format with appropriate charts, diagrams, and annexes to each element of operation. If this information is distilled in this form the master planning documents can be produced and circulated to all concerned including Saigon [REDACTED]. The success of this program will be the application of our most experienced personnel to quickly put this planning program into being and disseminating this basic information to all concerned so that we are all working from the same data base.

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[REDACTED]
we can then take the second step, namely, the sending on a TDY basis of a planning team to Saigon and pulling into useful focus all available data for the RDC Program. The team will accumulate this data in the same format as devised here and their efforts will represent a refinement with better time phasing of the basic information with which we are dealing at headquarters in broad general terms. The team should not depart until [REDACTED] returns. As it now stands, the team will be composed of

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[REDACTED] Office of Logistic [REDACTED] Office of Finance, an [REDACTED] of SAVA. [REDACTED] will depart for Saigon as Acting Chief of Support on a

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TDY basis next week and he will serve as a focal point for the team operation.

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[REDACTED] will be here for three more months and then he will depart for Saigon and as an experienced PERT officer he can pick up the planning functions and maintain them on a continuing basis.

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The planning involved here, namely, the planning base for the RDC Program, should be accomplished quickly but well and this should serve as a model and a format for other large-scale SEA programs. It is envisioned that this planning format should be gradually extended to other large programs in Vietnam and to [REDACTED] Vientiane. As this is accomplished, we will then develop the same planning format with the same guidelines and requirements for all Support for the total SEA programs. If successful we should realize great improvement and refinement in the Support effort and a great cost savings in materiel, manpower, and service.

cc: Colonel White

RLB:jvw

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